



MISSION: INTEGRATION

HANFORD

MISSION
INTEGRATION

SOLUTIONS

NEWSLETTER

May 2022



MISSION: OPPORTUNITY

Our team never misses the opportunity to put their whole heart into the task at hand – no matter what it may be!



WHAT'S INSIDE

Guest Message

2

Volunteer Spotlight:
Melinda Ihnan

3

HMIS Leadership Meeting

4

One Hanford Lean Six Sigma
Completes Virtual
Black Belt Training

5

One by One, Every Item Counts

6

Fire Ops 101 Provides Glimpse
Into Life of a Firefighter

7

Hanford's Effort with Birds
Soars Highest with DOE

9

Co-Op Interns
Share Experiences

11

Personnel Security Team Serves
as Site Services Innovator

13

WSU-TC Awards
STEM Scholarships

14

JA Bowling was Da Bomb!

15

Sounding the Alarm
to Save Lives

17

Hyperlinks
to stories

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT



Each month we turn the calendar we have a new opportunity to succeed, whether it's something substantial like starting a new project, making the right choice, or simply beginning a healthy habit. As defined, opportunity means "a set of circumstances that makes it possible to do something." The word itself is positive, however, add in the definition, and you can see just how impactful an opportunity can be.

As cleanup progresses, we are consistently afforded occasions to make things possible. From working safely and efficiently to remaining on-time and innovative, the circumstances are there for opportunity in our daily assignments. What changes these occasions from good to great is you. Our team is full of individuals with talent and drive who seize the opportunities presented.

Thank you for using our mission and vision as a guide in providing a quality work product for our customers, stakeholders and community. I am proud to lead a group who sees what opportunity is and capitalizes on it.

Stay safe, stay engaged, and keep up the great work! *Bob*

"A wise man will make more opportunities than he finds." — Francis Bacon

Guest Message – David Chase

You never know when an opportunity may come your way, like the one I had to become the senior vice president of Safeguards, Security & Emergency Response for HMIS. I have found throughout my career, in the United States Army and as VP of SS&ER, there is no shortage of growth and learning opportunities if you are willing to see them. Every day, opportunities present themselves to us whether we see them or not, and what some may view as challenges, uncertainties or hindrances, others see as a means to try something new.

As the site integrator, HMIS has the unique opportunity to think outside the box in providing essential services to the One Hanford cleanup mission. Across our company, we continue to explore ways to improve safety programs, emergency preparedness, site infrastructure, business processes, environmental stewardship, technologies and more. Through challenges presented with starting a new company, in the middle of a pandemic, and with a new contract structure, the HMIS team continues to achieve great results.

The SS&ER organization remains vigilant in finding opportunities to improve our support to the mission, including developing new ways to manage emergencies, such as our virtual EOC and incorporating GIS into our common operating picture; members of Hanford Patrol taking advantage of virtual engagement training; and the Fire Department taking the opportunity to educate our customers and surrounding communities on fire response capabilities.

The next time you're presented with something that feels like a roadblock or is outside your comfort zone, you might have a great opportunity in front of you. Look for and take advantage of opportunities as they present themselves, especially in how we interact and treat our families, friends and coworkers. Lastly, remember the great advice from Milton Berle, "If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door."



Hyperlink
to this page



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Melinda Ihnen

This month's spotlight is on Melinda Ihnen, an excess specialist for our Asset Disposition team and a dedicated volunteer for the Support, Advocacy and Resource Center. She's been a volunteer hospital advocate for more than 6 years, dedicating hundreds of hours to the training and response needed to support local assault victims. Melinda never knows when a call might come in and when she's outside of work, it's up to her to drop everything to support a victim of crime – no matter the age. The challenging role requires extensive training along with ongoing yearly training, in addition to the hours dedicated to the role.

"Melinda has been a pillar in our advocate program," said JoDee Garretson, executive director of SARC. "She is regularly taking shifts, and one of our most consistent responders in providing hospital advocacy in our community. Melinda signs up for multiple week shifts a month and exudes the qualities of a successful advocate. Hospital staff are all familiar with Melinda due to her efforts and experience, and they have commended her advocacy skills."

Melinda received a Volunteer Advocate of the Year honor from SARC and has been the volunteer who contributed the most hours to the non-profit over three separate years. Serving as an advocate for assault victims is important work that isn't for everyone, "I love being a hospital advocate," said Melinda. "As much as the crimes ride on you emotionally, it's just as rewarding to know you were there for someone in their biggest time of need."

Thank you for your dedication to our community, Melinda!



HMIS Leadership Meeting

HMIS held its first in-person All Leaders Meeting since operations began. More than 200 leaders from across the company participated in the interactive meeting. HMIS President Bob Wilkinson provided a general overview of performance under the new contract, while requesting input from attendees. Leaders shared thoughts on customer relationships and changes they have implemented to support the new contract structure. While the overarching response was a proud one for the work done to date, Bob reiterated the need to be "proud, but not satisfied" to continue improving relationships and meeting goals.

On a safety-related message, Julie Lindstrom, vice president of Workforce Solutions, shared current activities and future plans of addressing employee concerns surrounding traffic safety, particularly speeding, on the Hanford Site. Our leadership team remains committed to maintaining open dialogues and questioning attitudes. If you see something, say something, and don't hesitate to involve your leadership team so we can continue our success as the HMIS family.

ONE HANFORD MISSION



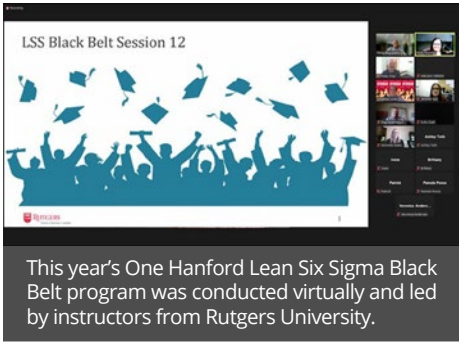
One Hanford Lean Six Sigma Completes Virtual Black Belt Training

Contributors: Holly Munroe, Sarah Nagel and Darci Teel

What is the driving force behind the One Hanford Lean Six Sigma program, which successfully graduated its first Black Belt class under HMIS this month? Perseverance and a desire for continuous improvement! A group of 12 certified Green Belts completed 72 hours of training, meeting virtually every week with instructors from Rutgers University to further their knowledge and understanding of Lean and Six Sigma processes, which are focused on structured improvement. This class of graduates includes employees from HMIS, HPMC, CPCCo and WRPS.

“We want our Lean Six Sigma professionals to encourage, instill and expand a culture of continuous improvement throughout the Hanford Site,” said Holly Munroe, a certified Black Belt coach with HMIS. “There is an opportunity for this team to share the Lean Six Sigma methodology with employees across multiple contractors to help find efficiencies in our everyday work processes.”

The Black Belt candidates will now work to certify by facilitating structured improvement activities and mentoring Green Belt candidates, all while promoting a growth mindset.



This year's One Hanford Lean Six Sigma Black Belt program was conducted virtually and led by instructors from Rutgers University.

Our Operating Excellence team supports more than 130 certified and trained Black and Green Belts across the Site and continues to improve its own processes. This is evident in the recent realignment to Performance Oversight within the Mission Assurance organization. The move integrates Operating Excellence with likeminded groups and emphasizes the importance of continuous improvement initiatives at HMIS.

ONE HANFORD MISSION

One by One, Every Item Counts

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

Our Warehousing and Property Management team is deep into its 100% wall-to-wall count of sitewide inventory stored in HMIS warehouses and yards. The definition of 100% is just as it sounds – our team spends months counting items in 15,000 locations over 18 virtual warehouses in five physical buildings and three yards. For the last fiscal year, this included counting a total of 470,420 individual items!

Inventory counted includes spare parts, convenience storage, which amounts to materials and equipment held for future projects, and general



supplies, including waste packaging drums, respiratory hoods and filters, along with numerous other items in support of the Hanford cleanup mission.

Our contract requires an annual count of all stocked and stored items in the warehouse network. The

first count done just after contract transition in 2021 found an accuracy of over 99% for both items and cost – an impressive total considering a 100% inventory had not been done since the Westinghouse Hanford Contract era.

The annual campaign begins with Inventory Specialist William Keck selecting current inventory for counting. Then, William schedules weekly counts to

the appropriate virtual warehouses, keeping an eye on completing all counts in time for the end of this fiscal year, expecting to finish this fall. About eight people are counting each week during the 100% inventory process.

A storekeeper conducts a physical verification of each location to make sure the count is accurate before adding the totals into a database. If a variance is found, an inventory specialist reviews the history and requests a recount to verify.

“As our initial 100% inventory counts reflect 99+% accuracy, tremendous effort has gone into maintaining a highly accurate inventory for the site,” said Billy Shoemake, Property Management manager.

When finished, DOE receives a final report with the total inventory count, total cost of inventory, as well as cost and item accuracy.





A total of 34 elected officials and other stakeholders from Washington, Idaho and Montana participated in this year's Fire Ops 101 training.

MISSION: OPPORTUNITY

Fire Ops 101 Provides Glimpse into Life of a Firefighter

Contributor: Shane Edinger

After a two-year hiatus, Fire Ops 101 returned to the HAMMER Federal Training Center. The event is put together by the International Association of Fire Fighters and provides public officials and other stakeholders a hands-on opportunity to better understand the

complexities of being a firefighter, including exposing them to the physical stress and strain that firefighters and first responders routinely encounter. They also gain a better understanding of the resources it takes to respond to emergencies.



DOE Contracting Officer Tim Corbett mans a fire hose during the structure fire scenario.



Vice President of Interface and Integration Services Brian Von Barga uses a crowbar to prop open the hood during the vehicle fire scenario.

"One of the things I love about Fire Ops 101 is the energy around the event," said Nicole Zawadzki, HAMMER's National Programs and Business Services manager. "We haven't had a lot of large, live fire training events during the pandemic, and to see the campus filled with firefighters again was awesome!"

A professional firefighter shadowed each participant through six different emergency scenarios, including a structure fire, search and rescue, medic response, vehicle fire, and extrication of a patient from a vehicle. More than 30 public officials from all over Washington, Idaho and Montana participated, including Richland Mayor Michael Alvarez, Pasco City Councilmembers Nikki Torres and Joseph Campos, and Raquel Crowley with U.S. Senator Patty Murray's office. HMIS Vice

President of Interface and Integration Services Brian Von Barga also took part, along with Washington River Protection Solutions President Wes Bryan and DOE Contracting Officer Tim Corbett.

"Fire Ops 101 was an amazing opportunity to experience just a fraction of what firefighters do, how they do it, and what tools and equipment are needed to successfully save lives and property," Von Barga shared. "It was an incredible, although exhausting, day that I will never forget."

This is the 16th year HAMMER hosted the event. It was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID, and last year's Fire Ops 101 was held in Boise.



Biologist Justin Wilde is part of the Hanford Site effort to protect migratory birds, including burrowing owls.



MISSION: OPPORTUNITY

Hanford’s Effort with Birds Soars Highest with DOE

Contributor: Robin Wojtanik

Congratulations are in order for our Mission Assurance Environmental team for its efforts in migratory bird conservation. DOE chose the Hanford Site to represent its submission for the Presidential Migratory Bird Federal Stewardship Award. As the representative for DOE, our work at Hanford has the opportunity to compete against other federal agencies and their performance in migratory bird conservation.

Actions by the Hanford Site have been submitted to DOE since 2013 and resulted in multiple honorable mentions over the last decade, but this

is the first time we were chosen as the top project for DOE, making the Hanford Site a contender for the national award.

“We are honored to be recognized by DOE for our efforts in the conservation of migratory birds on the Hanford Site,” said Lead Biologist Justin Wilde, with Ecological Monitoring and Compliance. “All of the Hanford contractors and the local DOE office have shown a dedication to the protection of migratory birds, and we thank them for being partners in Hanford’s conservation endeavors.”

The nomination for actions at Hanford focused on five main points including conservation, partnerships, policy and planning, international conservation, and facilities management. Examples of these include collaboration with a non-profit to design and install improved artificial burrow systems for burrowing owls, banding birds to support regional conservation of species, partnerships with state and federal fish and wildlife services to share and support research and monitoring data for species management, and ecological evaluations of over 100 projects each year.

The protection of migratory birds and their nests during site operations occurs through communication, education and evaluations through the nesting season.

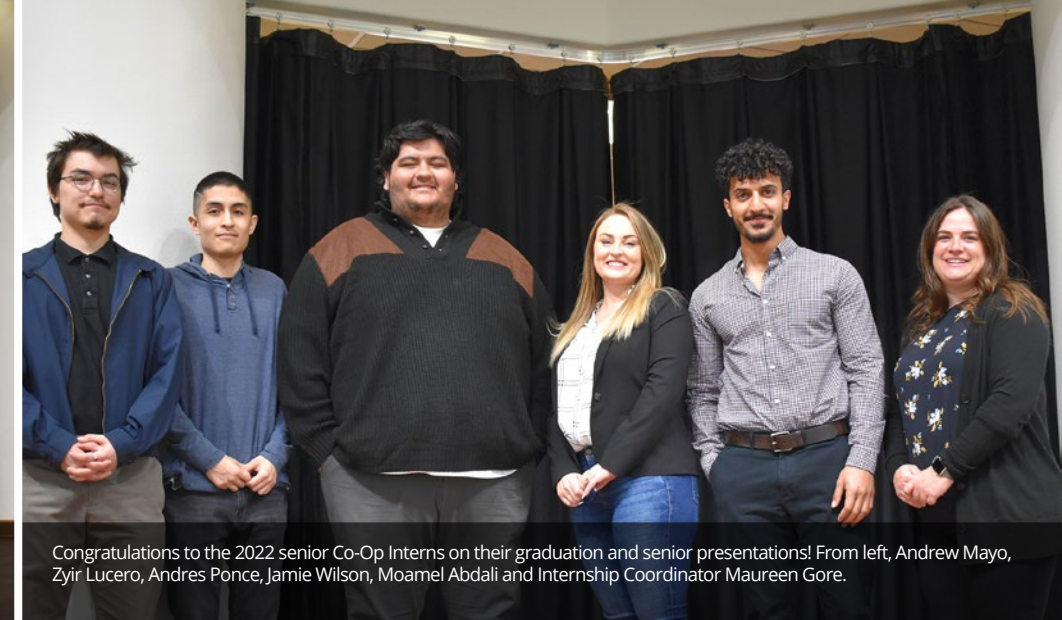
The 2022 Presidential Migratory Bird Federal Stewardship Award will be announced by The Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds at any time.



Moamel Abdali demonstrates his communication skills as he gives a well-prepared presentation about his Co-Op Internship at HMIS.



Jamie Wilson gives an energetic presentation about her Co-Op Internship experience as she worked on her electrical engineering degree.



Congratulations to the 2022 senior Co-Op Interns on their graduation and senior presentations! From left, Andrew Mayo, Zyr Lucero, Andres Ponce, Jamie Wilson, Moamel Abdali and Internship Coordinator Maureen Gore.

MISSION: OPPORTUNITY

Co-Op Interns Share Experiences

Contributors: Vanessa Madrigal and Robin Wojtanik

Congratulations to the 2022 co-op interns who recently graduated from college while working with HMIS! Our Co-Op Intern program gives college students the opportunity to network and gain experience in their field of study while supporting our need to meet current and future business objectives. We asked this year's interns to present on their experience at HMIS and how they applied what they learned throughout the internship to school, or how this internship helped with their education. For the first time since COVID-19, managers and executive officers gathered to see these presentations live and meet the interns.

Moamel Abdali, Andres Ponce and Jamie Wilson all worked with our Water & Sewer Utilities group. Moamel immigrated from Iraq eight years ago and graduated from WSU Tri-Cities this month. He said his experience allowed him to improve his technical writing skills, perform walkdowns, and review drawings, documents, and procedures.

Andres said his time with HMIS showed him it's essential to balance tasks when supporting multiple projects. His senior capstone project included work related to the project to build a new potable water tank on the Site.

Jamie's internship concluded with the transition to an electrical engineering position with our Engineering & Projects group. Jamie said her internship helped her succeed with her senior design project, helping her become familiar with equipment and understand electrical drawings.

Zyr Lucero started working with our Business Systems group last summer and had the chance to work on data integrations and automation, data masking and learned best practices for optimization. He looks forward to graduating this December.

Finally, Andrew Mayo finished his time after serving as both an HMIS co-op intern and an MSA intern, which gave him the experience of working through the company transition. During that time, he worked with IT teams, which allowed him to see hands-on use of database practices. This led to a senior project focused on creating an application involving course schedules from WSU Tri-Cities, where he graduated from this month.

Interns always bring fresh ideas to our business settings, and these opportunities allow them to nail down some real-world experience, all before graduation. Special thank you to Internship Coordinator Maureen Gore, managers and executive staff for making all this possible.



HMIS' Personnel Security team, (left to right) Kaylene Walter, Gretchen Crowder, Marissa Tapia, Chrysti Roessler, Natalie Deobald, Brad Anderson, Joel Elliott, Anthony Moore and Gary Heid.

MISSION: OPPORTUNITY

Personnel Security Team Serves as Site Services Innovator

Contributor: Amber Peters

As the Hanford Site transitions away from a more compartmentalized set of missions toward an increasingly unified 'One Hanford' approach, our Personnel Security team has been the tip of the spear in offering innovative solutions that ensure the safety, security, and functionality of the Site, turning adversity into opportunity along the way.

The team consists of the Reliability Programs Office and Central Badging Office and includes ten people who, together, have more than a century of combined experience. The Reliability Programs Office supports elements within Personnel Security, including pre-employment and security clearances, facility clearances, and monitoring drug testing for almost 4,500 workers at Hanford.

Among many other duties, the CBO maintains and tracks over 10,000 issued credentials and issues all visitor, building specific, and tour credentials.

"I am so proud of the continued unity our team has developed over the last several years," said Joel Elliott, outgoing Personnel Security manager. "Especially during COVID-19, group members did not limit themselves to what we have done, but instead focused on what we could do. The team clearly demonstrated they are passionate about their role and influence on the Hanford Site mission."

With a continued focus on technology and innovation, the organization is on schedule to introduce new software applications by the end of the calendar year to streamline and automate processes even further.

Personnel Security is also welcoming a new manager, Anthony Moore, who gained extensive leadership skills during his time as a senior enlisted Chief in the United States Navy. Good things are in the future of Personnel Security as the team helps to ensure HMIS continues to excel in delivering on its promise as mission integrator.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

WSU-TC Awards STEM Scholarships

Contributor: Reneé Brooks

With the support of many companies and individuals in our community, including HMIS, Washington State University Tri-Cities awards thousands of dollars in scholarships annually to students. At its 2022 Scholarship Recognition event, HMIS employees had the opportunity to meet and chat with several students who received our scholarships. Students shared their backgrounds and future plans, which include medical research and mechanical engineering.

Vice President of Workforce Solutions Julie Lindstrom also participated in a fireside chat at the event with student and HMIS scholarship recipient Mary Workman. Julie shared why our company chooses to sponsor scholarships, telling the crowd, "This community has afforded us many opportunities to serve. This is where we live. What we invest in this community is what we get out of it." She also offered advice to students who will be graduating and entering the workforce, saying "Face it 'til you make it – don't fake it! Face your mistakes, learn from them and always be authentic."

Mary shared an inspiring story and reminded the audience to "never let past circumstances determine your future." We are proud to support WSU-TC and the incredibly bright future of these students!



(L to R) Reneé Brooks (HMIS), students Caroline Cantú and Mary Workman, Butch T. Cougar, Julie Lindstrom (HMIS), and students Josiah Cantú and Sarah Keller.

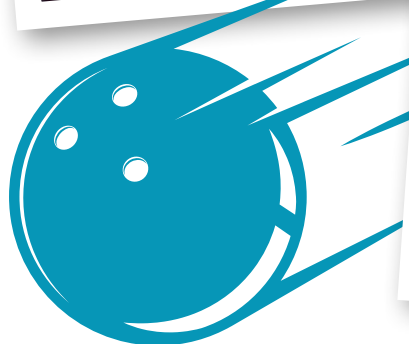
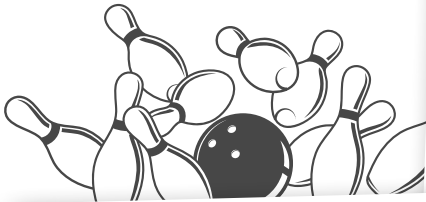


HMIS representative Julie Lindstrom and WSU-TC student Mary Workman each shared insights and advice on why philanthropy is important and how to successfully navigate futures.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

JA Bowling Was Da Bomb!

Our HMIS family had a strong showing for our first participation in the Junior Achievement Bowling Classic! Featuring a “Back to the 90’s” theme, our teams bowled their hearts out at the HMIS-exclusive night at Spare Time Lanes. It was the first bowling classic held since 2020 and HMIS teams raised more than \$11,000. Thank you to all who participated and donated! We are especially grateful to our team captains and company coordinator Robin Wojtanik for leading the charge on a successful event! The bowling classic supports thousands of local students through youth empowerment.



Cont'd



A team of nine HMIS employees and loved ones helped to install smoke alarms and educate families about fire safety as part of the Red Cross' *Sound the Alarm* campaign.



More than 170 smoke alarms were installed in 64 homes as part of the event, helping to protect more than 270 Kennewick residents.



Hanford Fire Chief Todd Roper installs a smoke alarm inside a home at Columbia Mobile Village.

Sounding the Alarm to Save Lives

Contributor: Shane Edinger

Research shows that working smoke alarms can cut the risk of death from home fires in half. That's one of the reasons why the HMIS family of volunteers teamed with the American Red Cross and the Kennewick Fire Department to install free smoke alarms in homes at Columbia Mobile Village on May 14. A group of nine HMIS employees and their loved ones joined forces with other community volunteers to install more than 170 smoke alarms in 64 homes.

"This is a neighborhood I often lose sleep over," shared Captain Brian Ellis, Kennewick's Deputy Fire Marshal. "They need this critical safety feature and I have no doubt these smoke alarms will help save lives."

Volunteers also shared fire safety information with the residents and their families. This event was part of the Red Cross' *Sound the Alarm* campaign to install 50,000 free smoke alarms in more than 150 at-risk communities across the country.